

CLAIMS

1. An intervertebral implant (1), having an upper part (2) that has a support face (5) for a vertebra and a lower part (3) that has a support face (13) for an adjacent vertebra, on each of which parts engagement elements (20, 21, 22, 23), which are accessible from one side of the intervertebral implant, for a manipulation instrument are disposed, characterized in that the upper part (2) and lower part (3) each have protrusions and recesses (10, 19; 16, 17, 9) aimed at the respectively other part, which are offset laterally from one another in such a way that when the upper part (2) has been brought close to the lower part (3) they mesh with one another; and that the engagement elements (22, 23; 20, 21) on the upper part (2) and on the lower part (3) are each disposed in protrusions (10; 16, 17) of these parts in such a way that the engagement elements (22, 23; 20, 21) of the upper part (2) and lower part (3) are located side by side and at least partly overlap in the direction of the height of the intervertebral implant (1).

2. The implant of claim 1, characterized in that the engagement elements (20, 21, 22, 23) are insertion openings for pinlike retaining elements of a manipulation instrument.

3. The implant of claim 2, characterized in that the insertion openings (20, 21, 22, 23) extend substantially parallel to the support faces (5; 13).

4. The implant of one of the foregoing claims, characterized in that the lower part (3) has a central indentation (19), opposite the lower support face (13), which indentation is surrounded by a U-shaped edge (16, 17, 18).

5. The implant of claim 4, characterized in that the upper part (2) has a central protrusion (10) that fits substantially in complimentary fashion into the indentation (19).

6. The implant of one of claims 4 or 5, characterized in that the engagement elements (20, 21) of the lower part (3) are disposed on the two ends of the U-shaped edge (16, 17, 18).

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7. The implant of one of claims 5 or 6, characterized in that the engagement elements (22, 23) of the upper part (2) are disposed on the central protrusion (10) of the upper part (2).

8. The implant of claim 7, characterized in that the engagement elements (22, 23) of the upper part (2) are disposed near the lateral edges of the central protrusion (10).

9. The implant of one of the foregoing claims, characterized in that the upper part (2) and/or the lower part (3) is embodied in substantially platelike fashion.

10. The implant of one of the foregoing claims, characterized in that the lower part (3) and the upper part (2) each have a respective receptacle (19; 12) for a pivot insert (4).

11. The implant of claim 10, characterized in that the pivot insert (4) has at least one spherical support face (25), which engages the correspondingly spherically shaped receptacle (12).

12. The implant of claim 11, characterized in that the spherical receptacle (12) is disposed in the central protrusion (10) of the upper part (2).

13. The implant of one of claims 10-12, characterized in that the central indentation (19) of the lower part (3) forms the receptacle for the pivot insert (4).

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14. The implant of claim 13, characterized in that the pivot insert (4) can be inserted from the side into the receptacle (19), which has the engagement elements (20, 21, 22, 23) for a manipulation instrument.

15. The implant of claim 14, characterized in that the pivot insert (4) is insertable into the receptacle (19) along a guide (26, 27).

16. The implant of one of claims 10-15, characterized in that the pivot insert (4) is embodied substantially in platelike fashion.

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17. The implant of one of claims 11-16, characterized in that the pivot insert (4) substantially completely fills up the central receptacle (19) and with its spherical support face (25) protrudes from the receptacle (19).